THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Safeguards against arbitrary lay off is provided to the workmen under the provisions of Chapter V-A and V-B of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Section 25 C of Chapter V-A provides the right of workers laid-off for compensation. As per the provisions laid down in the Chapter V-B of the ID Act, 1947, for the industrial establishments employing not less than 100 workers, prior approval of the appropriate Government is required before effecting lay off.

Regarding protection against reduction of salary and wages, workmen can raise industrial dispute under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Ratification of ILO convention 87 and 98

1821. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is not ratifying the International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention 87 and 98;

(b) how many countries have ratified these two conventions; and

(c) whether in the changing scenario Government will reconsider for ratifying the ILO convention 87 and 98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (c) Sir, at present, Government is not considering the ratification of the ILO convention No. 87 and 98.

(b) Government No. 87 and 98 has been ratified by 149 and 159 countries respectively.

Retrenchment of workers due to economic recession

1822. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that companies resorted to retrenching workers as a result of the economic recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor the job loss of workers in the private sector; and

(d) if so, the details of the number of workers retrenched during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No exhaustive survey/study has been conducted regarding retrenchment of employees due to economic slowdown. However, a sample study conducted (for the period August-October, 2008) by Department off Commerce for 121 export